

Control of public roads and bridges.

Convict force.

Details of authority.

Cartways.

Public bridges.

Township system abolished.

Expenditures without regard to townships.

Proviso: Equalization of road conditions.

Convicts subject to road work.

Keeping and maintenance of convicts.

Proviso: Discretion of court.

mission. The said commission, or its duly authorized agent, shall have power and authority to supervise, direct and have full charge and control of the building, maintenance and repair of all public roads and bridges in said county, including the control of the county convict force, it shall have full and complete authority to determine what roads or parts of roads shall be worked and improved and how, when and in what manner the work shall be done; it shall have full charge and control of the laying out of new roads, the widening or relocating of any public road now in use, and discontinuing old roads, the establishment of cartways; it shall have full charge and control over all public bridges, and shall have full and complete power and authority to do any and all things necessary to be done in the proper furtherance and for the prompt discharge of said duties and all other duties imposed upon it by this act.

SEC. 13. The system of working the public roads of Robeson County by townships, expending within each township the road taxes collected within that township is hereby abolished; and hereafter all public roads of said county shall be worked, improved, maintained and repaired, and all public bridges, built, cared for and kept up from the taxes to be levied and collected under the provisions of this act, and the taxes so collected may be expended for road or bridge purposes in accordance with this act as the same may be necessary in any part of the county without respect to the township or section from which the taxes were derived: *Provided, however*, that in expending the receipts from road taxes to be levied and collected under the provisions of this act the said road commission shall disburse the same so that the public roads and bridges in each of the districts hereby created shall be kept in as good condition, so far as possible, as the public roads and bridges are in the other districts.

SEC. 14. All person confined in the county jail of Robeson County under final sentence of a court of competent jurisdiction for crime or imprisoned for nonpayment of any fine or costs, or under final judgment in cases of bastardy, or as vagrants, and all persons who would otherwise be sent to the common jail or to the State prison for a term of not more than ten years, and in all other cases permitted by law, shall be worked upon the public roads of Robeson County under the direction and control of said road commission; and all such convicts shall be guarded, fed and clothed, and otherwise cared for and maintained out of the taxes to be collected under the provisions of this act: *Provided*, that in any case where a person has been convicted of a crime for which he might be sentenced to a term in the State prison, the presiding judge may, notwithstanding the provisions of this act, sentence such person to serve his term in the State prison if he be satisfied that the best interests of the public require that